



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Congratulations to the Finalists of the 28th Annual Larry Neal Writers' Competition

The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities congratulates the following finalists for the 28th Annual Larry Neal Writers' Competition. The competition commemorates the artistic legacy and vision of cultural understanding of Larry Neal, a renowned author, academic and former Executive Director of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

The DC Commission received more than 300 submissions from the local emerging and established writers. "The creativity and dedication of DC's writing community never ceases to amaze me," says Ayris Scales, Interim Executive Director of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities. "Each year, the Larry Neal Writing Competition recognizes talented adult, teen and youth writers. The 2011 submissions were particularly impressive. My sincere congratulations go out to all the finalists!"

Finalists will be recognized at the 2011 Larry Neal Writers' Awards on **Friday May 6, 2011 at 6 pm** in the Folger Shakespeare Library's Elizabethan Hall. The ceremony is the culminating event for the writing competition, which is open to writers ages 8 and above who reside in the District of Columbia.

For questions regarding the Larry Neal Writers' Competition, finalists or awards ceremony, please visit www.dcarts.dc.gov, or email Carlyn Madden, Arts Education Manager at carlyn.madden@dc.gov.

The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities provides grants, programs and educational activities that encourage diverse artistic expressions and learning opportunities, so that all District of Columbia residents and visitors can experience the rich culture of our city.



Finalists for the 28th Annual Larry Neal Writers' Competition

ADULT CATEGORIES

Dramatic Writing Finalists

Timothy Guillot
Miranda Rose Hall
Richard Herstek

Poetry Finalists

E. Laura Golberg
Patricia Gray
Samuel Miranda

Short Story Finalists

William John Bert
Tania Rachel James
Binahkaye Joy

TEEN CATEGORIES

Essay Finalists

Enoch Ajayi
McKinley Technology HS
Stephanie Guzman
School Without Walls HS
Adera Toye
McKinley Technology HS
Niya Watkins
The Potomac School

Poetry Finalists

Cherrie Coachman
Banneker HS
Reginald Conway
Ellington HS
Robin Jones
Ballou HS
Nicandra Merchant
McKinley Technology HS

Short Story Finalists

Bria Bailey
McKinley Technology HS
Zachary Clare
Ellington HS
Kehinde Dosunmu
School Without Walls HS
Sarai Reed
Ellington HS

YOUTH CATEGORIES

Essay Finalists

Irina Benson
Thomson ES
Daniel Freymann
Lafayette ES
Claire Shaw
Lafayette ES

Poetry Finalists

Sharri Barnes
Hart MS
Zachary Nachbar-Seckel
Deal MS
Zoe Zitner
Lafayette ES

Short Story Finalists

Alexandra Heinrich
Lafayette ES
Sophie Weich
Lafayette ES
Talia Zitner
Lafayette ES

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